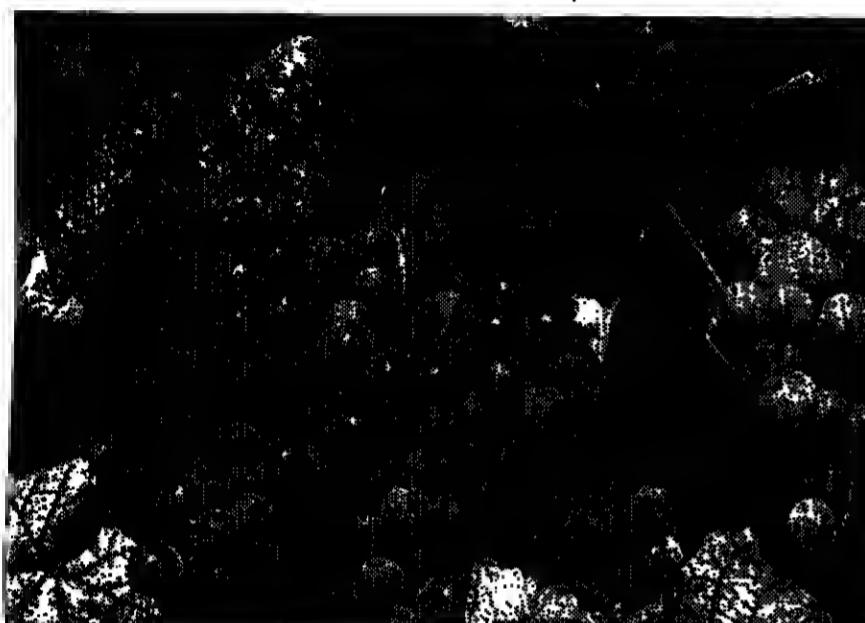


# Routes to tour in Germany

## The German Wine Route



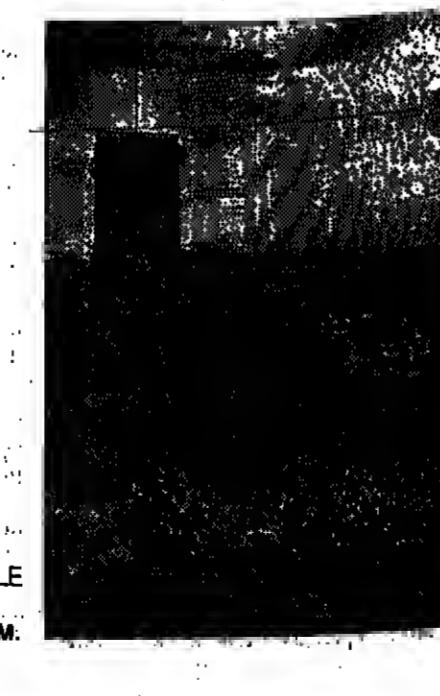
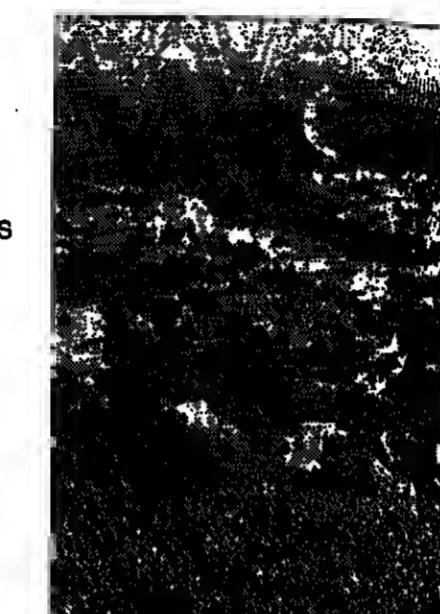
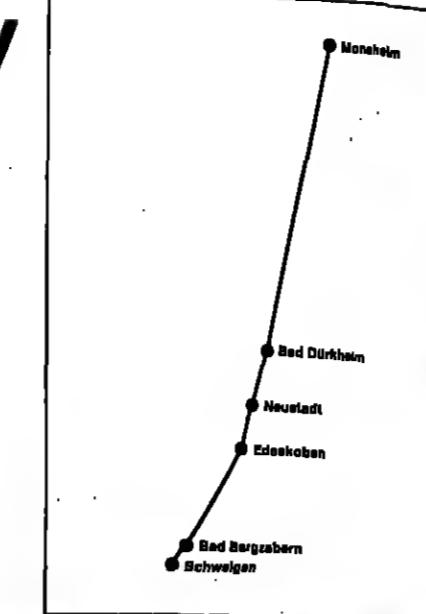
German roads will get you there — to the Palatinate woods, for instance, where 2,000 years ago Roman legionaries were already growing wine. Each vine yields up to three litres of various kinds of wine, such as Riesling, Sylvaner, Müller-Thurgau, Scheurebe or Gewürztraminer. Grapes are gathered in the autumn but the season never ends. Palatinate people are always ready to throw a party, and wine always holds pride of place, generating *Gemütlichkeit* and good cheer. As at the annual Bad Dürkheim Wurstmarkt, or sausage market, the Deidesheim goat auction and the election of the German Wine Queen in Neustadt. Stay the night in wine-growing villages, taste the wines and become a connoisseur.

Visit Germany and let the Wine Route be your guide.

- 1 Grapes on the vine
- 2 Dorrenbach
- 3 St Martin
- 4 Deidesheim
- 5 Wachenheim

**DZT** DEUTSCHE ZENTRALE  
FÜR TOURISMUS EV.  
Brahmsstrasse 69, D-6900 Frankfurt/M.

2



# The German Tribune

Hamburg, 13 August 1989  
Twenty-eighth year - No. 1382 - By air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C  
ISSN 0016-8858  
DEPOSE A GRX X

## Arms control as a means of reshaping Europe

*Frankfurter Allgemeine*

What East and West have in common is their desire to spend less money on tanks and armed forces personnel. Where they are at odds is on what shape Europe is eventually to take.

Arms control is not the be-all and end-all of politics; it is the wherewithal of political architecture.

Facts and figures, troop cuts and verification are all part and parcel of hegemony and the balance of power, of the survival of the Soviet empire and the nature of the Atlantic alliance.

Since the last Nato summit in Brussels the West has regained cohesion and thus stands a chance of being able to determine the political timetable of arms control.

What is at stake? Nothing much if America merely reduces its troop manpower in Western Europe by a fifth to 375,000.

But if the Soviet Union were to reduce its troop strength in Eastern Europe to the same level the foundations of the Soviet empire might well begin to shake. Compromise between rulers and ruled in

### IN THIS ISSUE

PERSPECTIVE Page 5  
75 years since the First World War began

THE STOCK MARKETS Page 7  
Quotations about role of banks as day of computer broking dawns

SPACE RESEARCH Page 9  
Rubbish orbiting at 20,000 mph brings the age of the armour-plated platform

THE ENVIRONMENT Page 13  
A Graf battles to save his castle from King Coal

HORIZONS Page 14  
The wicked beach bairn discovers some green fields

HOLDUP-MURDER TRIAL Page 15  
Hostage death blamed on series of police errors

eastern Central Europe would then be indispensable, and the Soviet leaders would need to consider how to transform their empire into a commonwealth.

What he proposed was improvements in civil aviation, more youth exchange schemes, more individual contacts and international encounters across the border between the Allied sectors in the divided city — and even holding the Olympic Games at locations all over the city.

These proposals were formally submitted to the Soviet government six months later in a memorandum signed by

of land-based short-range nuclear systems, are just that: technical details.

The West must consider what view of Europe lies behind the talks on conventional, chemical and nuclear arms and doctrines. It must also wonder what the Soviet leaders envisage.

And that means not just motives but objectives. The motives, especially in economic terms, are self-evident.

The Soviet Union spends what, in the long term, is an intolerably high proportion of its GNP — much more than budget statistics reveal — on armaments as the basis of its claim to world power status.

"Upper Volta plus missiles," as Helmut Schmidt once put it in an aside the Russians have never forgotten.

Despite a respectable performance on its own account the Soviet military-industrial complex has failed so far to stimulate the civilian sector, let alone to sweep it along.

What is more, Soviet military investment in, say, Afghanistan, Angola and Ethiopia has failed to pay the expected dividends. Much can be achieved with bayonets, as Talleyrand noted, but you can't sit on them.

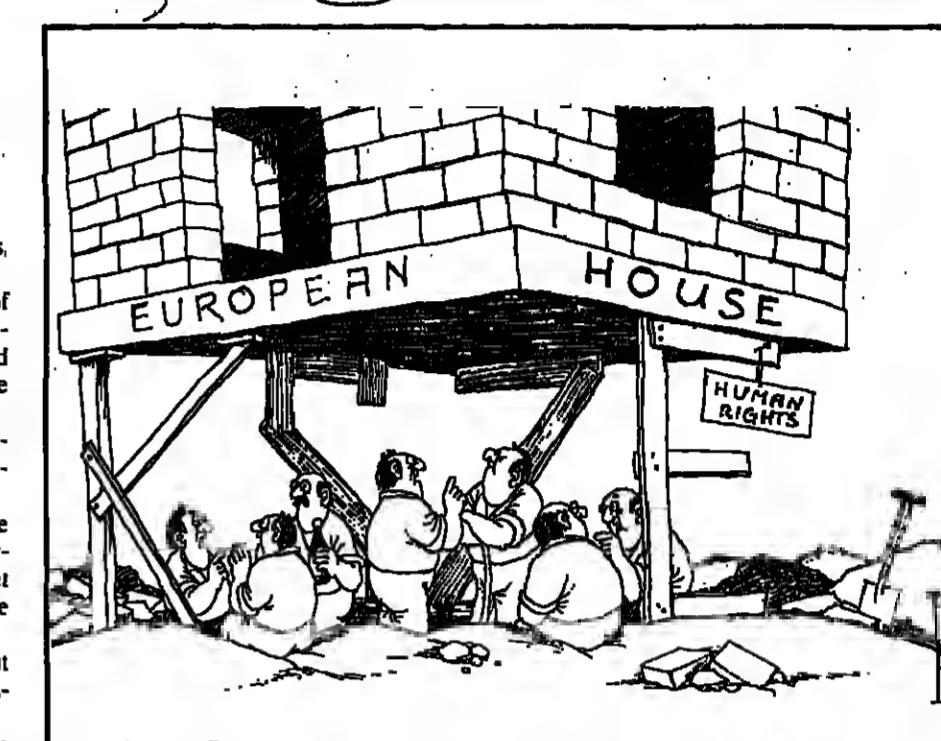
The Soviet Union today is a world power only in military terms, but it is no secret that Mr Gorbachov is keen to transform his gigantic empire into a world power in every respect.

He needs a high-powered economy if he is to do so. He also needs a new flexibility and openness of Soviet society as a means of domination, discipline and control and, above all, as a means of mobilisation.

The West must do its best to ensure that the Soviet Union changes its structures and its foreign policy on the long road out of stagnation.

It must also seek to ensure that this change takes constitutional shape in domestic and treaty shape in foreign affairs.

What can now be seen in outline is tha



Isn't it time we started talking about the foundations?

(Cartoon: P. Leger/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

"civilisation of Soviet power" described at the outset of the Cold War by George F. Kennan as the long-term objective of Western security and containment policy.

Arms control retains a twofold meaning for the Soviet Union. It both rationalises the enormous, futile effort arms expenditure entails and continues the old strategy by new means.

Soviet diplomats have occasionally been heard to say that the "common European house" must be decorated by means of arms control.

Since the missile crisis the Soviet leaders have constantly protested that the US presence in Europe is, in their view, worth maintaining as part of a predictable order.

Yet they do all they can to denounce the western part of the continent, doubtless realising that the US military presence's days would then be numbered and the West would have forfeited its queen on the European chessboard.

The Federal Republic of Germany is where pressure is brought to bear in con-

nection with this neutralisation strategy.

The Cold War helped to set up and to stabilise the Federal Republic. It must surely be plunged into a crisis of orientation should the Cold War seem to be over. The Soviet leaders cannot afford to ignore the fact that this may well lead to a clash between the world powers that imposes a heavy burden on restructuring in the Soviet Union.

To underestimate America is a dangerous Continental temptation, as governments in Berlin and Moscow have both found out to their cost at various times.

As the arms control game now stands on the European chessboard, the Kremlin will need to decide what its long-term aims are.

Does it want quiet on the Western front and evolution in eastern Central Europe, or would it prefer an ailing Nato and a direct clash with the other world power?

*Michael Stürmer*

(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland*, 3 August 1989)

## Berlin Wall the acid test of perestroika

seek fresh approaches on the basis of the 1971 Four-Power Berlin Agreement.

Ought not the Soviet protagonists of glasnost and perestroika to have agreed with alacrity? They ought to have done, had it not been for dogmatists who vetoed the extension of "new thinking" to this sector.

The dogmatists' advice, very much along Brezhnev era lines, was: "No experiments in Berlin, if you don't mind!"

Soviet leaders from Gorbachov to Shevardnadze, who weren't yet firmly in the saddle, agreed to bide their time on this issue.

Initially, then, nothing happened. After waiting eight months the Western powers put in a fresh appearance at the Soviet Foreign Ministry and stressed "their continued interest in a prompt and positive response" to their December

*Continued on page 2*

## ■ INTERNATIONAL

# Machinations, negotiations and hope in Middle East



**Is it a breathing space that gives cause for hope? Or is it just the quiet before the storm, before the Middle East hostage drama comes to a head yet again?**

The message from the Shi'ite extremists, horrific in its disregard for human life, that US hostage Joseph Cicippio's execution had been "frozen" was, first and foremost, time gained.

Efforts continue through many channels to defuse the situation and to sever the knot tied by the Israeli abduction of Sheikh Obeid.

They weren't upset by yet another horrific report such as the video film claiming to show the hanging of William Higgins, another US hostage in Beirut.

It is hard to say who is these efforts and who might best play to win some success. The Israels, berated by friend and foe alike as the initial offenders in this episode, have offered a comprehensive exchange of prisoners and have mentioned possible contacts with Shi'ite groups.

The Americans are abre-rattling with one hand by sending in ships while, at the same time, sending out diplomats and sounding out possible intermediaries.

Less obtrusively, the Soviet Union is also engaged in behind-the-scenes diplomatic activities.

The superpowers have different interests in the Middle East; their client states might not be like each other, but neither America nor Russia can afford, in the age of detente, to work so hard against each other and to fan the flames of conflict still further.

Recent instances of cooperation

sound notes of confidence for the Middle East. The superpowers have at least set aside their differences in Afghanistan (even though the country has yet to come to rest), in Angola and now in Cambodia, where the prospect of peace is at least a possibility.

Yet despite the crucial part by the superpowers, a key man in the latest conflict is in Teheran, where newly-elected Iranian President Rafsanjani is trying to lead a country that still bears the hallmark of Ayatollah Khomeini out of its isolation and toward closer ties with the West.

He is likeliest to be able to influence his Shi'ite co-religionists in Lebanon. He alone, if anyone, is in a position to subdue the fanaticism of the Hezbollah and its units.

Even the Americans say he is seriously trying to do so, and they have been suspicious Iran since the US embassy hostage affair a decade ago.

Assume that efforts by those concerned, doubtless including Syria, which is firmly committed in Lebanon, lead to a solution of the hostage conflict consisting of a full-scale exchange of kidnapped Americans and Europeans and Israeli prisoners-of-war for a few dozen Shi'ites, including Sheikh Obeid.

The Israelis would then claim that their abduction of a Lebanese Shi'ite leader had been justified. The claim would be one the rest of the world would have to tolerate. It would be much more important for the newly-established network of international contacts not to be allowed to break down, for it to be used to try and solve the long-standing conflict between Jews and Arabs.

That may be considered a rash idea as long as the first problem has not yet been solved. It is also rash in that neither of the main parties to the con-

flict, the Israelis and the Palestinians, show any sign of yielding an inch.

Premier Shamir of Israel has proposed holding elections in the occupied territories and is prepared to hold talks with the Palestinians' elected representatives, as long as they aren't PLO members, on the future of the West Bank.

But this offer cannot be reconciled with the insistence, reiterated by the chief rabbis, on Israel yielding not an inch of the Biblical Promised Land.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat sounds conciliatory. He too has submitted a plan that would lead, via a few detours, to elections.

But he insists from the outset on the existence of an independent state of Palestine, which has been proclaimed but is anathema to the Israelites.

Mr Arafat lends constant support to the Intifada, the Palestinian unrest that began in December 1987. That causes even Israeli politicians who might be prepared to compromise to continue to mistrust everything he says.

They don't even want to take seriously his strongly-worded disapproval of the Shi'ite extremists in Lebanon. In calling on fellow-Palestinians to support the struggle Mr Arafat is strengthening the hand of Israeli right-wingers who want an even tougher line against the stone- and Molotov cocktail-throwing Palestinians.

The Arab world is by no means uniformly agreed that Israel's existence must be accepted. Some are deliberately bankrolling Palestinian groups who feel Mr Arafat is no longer sufficiently radical in outlook and see his peace probes as going too far.

It is mainly for the Soviet Union to bring about a change of mind on this point, leaving the United States to bring American influence to bear on Israel.

Pragmatic arrangements resulted in certain sectors, but whenever written commitments were required, the Soviet Union preferred not to commit itself.

Are there grounds for hope in the hostage drama? Yes, provided the breathing space can be put to good use.

Are there grounds for hope in the Middle East conflict? Maybe, provided hopes are fulfilled on the first point. Maybe, but no more. Reiner Dederichs

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 5 August 1989)

Were it possible to draw inferences from the Paris preliminary talks between the four Cambodian groups on the success or failure prospects of the conference proper, the country's future would look bleak indeed.

No agreement has been reached in the talks between the Phnom Penh government and the resistance front.

In principle, although for different motives, all parties realise they must use the chance to negotiate peace terms.

The Soviet Union can no longer afford to use regional conflicts to distract attention from its domestic problems. So Moscow wants to put out any smouldering that might flare up into a fully-fledged East-West fire.

Vietnam, Moscow's unloved ally, needs capital and know-how to reconstruct, and Hanoi cannot expect either unless the conference is a success.

Peking wants to regain a foothold in the international arena and to recover from the loss of face it suffered in June.

The United States wants to end the Indo-China story. But the Cambodians themselves, at daggers drawn, hold the key to peace in the region.

Even if Indo-China returns to the headlines as a world hot spot the outcome of the Paris talks will be uncertain. They may be backed, and attended, by US Secretary of State James Baker, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Chinese

## A matter of unravelling all the knots in the Cambodian tangle

Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, but none of these three are toeing the same line, and the dispute between the small fry reflects the viewpoints of the Big Three.

The details of international monitoring, under UN auspices, of the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia have created fewer problems than had been feared.

But the great powers are no less at loggerheads than those directly concerned over participation by the Khmer rouge in a Cambodian government-to-be.

The UN stands a chance of consolidating its reputation for being a peace-promoting institution. But it will need to proceed with caution.

Neither an arrangement that is geared solely to international political configurations nor one that abides by terms of reference that are too narrow and merely take Cambodian demands into account stands any chance of achieving success.

What is needed is a "global model" as Mr Baker rightly put it.

Kid gloves will be needed to untie the knot of different interests and viewpoints and to forestall a civil war from the outset.

Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze has not yet dealt with details. He prefers to call for a fitting, suitable and dignified role to be played by the United Nations in any settlement.

Christoph Rabé

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 1 August 1989)

## Perestroika

Continued from page 1

1987 proposals. Five weeks later on 15 September 1988, the Soviet reply finally came — and it wasn't satisfactory.

It basically was a reiteration of the restrictive legal view already held by the Soviet Union and said the GDR was responsible for civil aviation and suggested the Allies negotiate details of international conferences and sporting events.

It was a cold shower, but experts found after analysis that Four-Power talks were not ruled out.

So the West made a further approach to the Soviet Union in December 1988, repeating its proposal. Silence then reigned for six months.

At the end of June the Allies reminded Moscow of their proposal, and at the end of July the three Western ambassadors outlined their proposal yet again in East Berlin.

The talks were cordial but their Soviet opposite number merely referred them to Moscow.

Unlike the optimistic interpretation of the chief Bonn government spokesman, the three Western envoys did not feel the talks had yielded much that was new.

Soviet officials were equally hesitant to commit themselves during Mr Gorbatchov's visit to Bonn.

The Federal government succeeded in having included in the joint declaration the formula: "Berlin (West) will take part in the development of cooperation subject to strict observance and full implementation of the 3 September 1971 Four-Power Agreement."

Pragmatic arrangements resulted in certain sectors, but whenever written commitments were required, the Soviet Union preferred not to commit itself.

During his period as minister of state in the Chancellor's Office, Schäuble was able to train the political acumen he now applies to his new task.

Unlike his predecessor in office, Friedrich Zimmermann, Schäuble does not shock the FDP and SPD with abrasive demands for an amendment of the Basic Law (Constitution) provision on the right of asylum or with sharp-tongued remarks on the need for facilitated deportation of foreigners.

However, there has not been a complete change of heart in the Interior Ministry. Ministry officials feel that the new motto is "action speaks louder than words."

Social Democrats would be naive to believe that they can engage in such dialogues before major Land elections and the general election next year without being suspected of paving the way for a coalition with the Greens.

SPD leader Hans-Jochen Vogel has every reason to repeatedly insist that his party has no intention of taking part in discussions on possible coalitions or speculations on election candidates.

Up to now this policy was undisputed among leading SPD politicians.

In view of the problems facing the centre-right coalition in Bonn and the growing popularity of right-wing extremist groups the SPD wanted to keep all options open for the general election campaign.

Furthermore, the party hopes to obtain absolute majorities in the state elections in Saarland and North-Rhine Westphalia in January and May next year.

The answer to the chancellorship candidate question was scheduled for some time shortly before the general election campaign begins in earnest. This sensible strategy has taken a serious knock.

The Social Democrats who took part in or who supported talks with the Greens have plunged their party into speculations about a Red-Green coalition.

Was this the result of inexperience and inability or was it intentional? The politi-

T he ministers in Chancellor Kohl's reshuffled cabinet claim that they did not regard their first 100 days as a "period of grace."

But before most of them left for their summer holidays they published documents designed to show their performances so far as favourably as possible.

Independent media critics and even the most critical members of the Opposition will find it hard to find fault with the information.

Statements by Chancellor Kohl, FDP chairman Count Otto Lambsdorff or CSU chairman and Bonn Finance Minister Theo Waigel to the effect that the coalition has regained its footing seem justified.

As opposed to the thrifty finance administrator Stoltenberg, Waigel thinks along more general policy lines — as demonstrated by his plans for financial assistance for Poland and for the 1990 federal budget.

But he is not excessively generous, a fact borne out by the new borrowing figure for 1990, which is lower than planned.

The reverberations triggered by Waigel's speech on the former German territories in Eastern Europe soon subsided thanks to his regular contacts with Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher (FDP).

Waigel visited Genscher in hospital, where he was recovering from a heart attack.

Gerhard Stoltenberg is the first Defence Minister in Bonn to have made his peace with Genscher during recent years.

The experienced politician, who also seeks an amicable relationship with parliament and the defence committee, does not publicly highlight existing differences of opinion in the fields of armament and disarmament policy as disruptively as his predecessors.

Schäuble referred to the general objective of limiting the influx of new citizens to an extent acceptable to German society as a whole. The link, and the need for regulation, is there.

During his period as minister of state in the Chancellor's Office, Schäuble was able to train the political acumen he now applies to his new task.

But the talks have long since turned into an uncontrollable political risk for the SPD.

For the Greens, on the other hand, they provide an opportunity to claim greater political significance than they deserve.

However, there has not been a complete change of heart in the Interior Ministry. Ministry officials feel that the new motto is "action speaks louder than words."

The Greens have every reason to be happy; all of the factions in the party are keen on talks with the SPD, since — as opposed to the Social Democrats — they only have one possible coalition partner.

To blame the SPD's predicament on the political naivete of a few of its members would be an oversimplification.

After all, there are clear points of contact between the interests of the Greens and many Social Democrats in terms of strategic and fundamental policy goals.

After seven years of the conservative-liberal politics of social inequality and environmental policy thoughtlessness both parties dream of a new social consensus.

The Greens would like a "Red-Green project", which a coalition after the 1990 general election could inspire.

In the SPD even members of the party executive enthuse about "reform alliances of the 90s".

This is a risk for the party, since those who succumb to such enthusiasm tend to forget political reality for all the visions.

There is no proof, for example, of an electoral majority for the SPD and Greens.

Furthermore, the initiators of the talks have overlooked the fact that historical alliances are not formed in elections or governments, but between political

But Klein is better because he risks more and because the language he uses is tougher without being more brusque.

The new Regional Planning and Urban Development Minister, Gerda Hasselfeldt, has brushed aside the impression that the housing construction ministry is superfluous.

As opposed to her predecessor, Oskar Scheiner, she is aware of the housing shortage and insists on the construction of a million dwelling units with a large proportion of low-rent housing for the socially disadvantaged, students and immigrants.

Friedrich Zimmermann, who was "demoted" from Interior Minister to Transport Minister, has at least overcome his initial disappointment.

He has stopped the habit of commenting, much to the annoyance of Chancellor Kohl, on general issues such as when he openly came out in support of the modernisation of short-range nuclear missiles noiselessly before the Nato summit.

Although there have been no positive headlines for the Bundeswehr, something which is virtually impossible during a period of growing disarmament, he has kept the armed forces out of the bad headlines. Wörner was unable to do a good job here.

Stoltenberg has only failed to live up expectations on the concept for the reduction of military low-level flying, a concept which was originally supposed to be ready in July.

The cabinet reshuffle 100 days ago numerically affected the CSU most. No-one complains today about the ministerial status of government spokesman Hans Klein.

Klein is not necessarily furnished with more and qualitatively better political information by Chancellor Kohl than the previous government spokesman, Friedhelm Ost.

movements. The electorate has every right to be presented with political parties which have distinctive images and political goals.

If a "Red-Green" sauce is poured over both parties the Social Democrats will lose this image, an image which has taken many years to evolve.

Who is going to take the current programmatic discussion seriously if the SPD is at the same time engaged in public discussions on a joint reform project with the Greens?

Every programmatic decision by the SPD is merely viewed in accordance with the possibility of such cooperation.

The double strategy by leftist Social Democrats of strengthening their own position in the party by negotiating with the Greens is also fatal.

It overlooks the fact that only the Greens benefit from such a strategy.

It makes it easier for the Greens to force the Red-Green discussion onto the SPD and thus restrict its room to manoeuvre.

This is likely to result in appreciable electoral losses for the SPD.

The Greens for their part stand to gain from such an approach.

Their supporters have long since favoured cooperation with the SPD.

The talks with leading SPD members improve the party's public reputation.

The Social Democrats are helping the Greens cover up their own political and programmatic disunity.

The CDU is also likely to benefit, since it can now point to proof for its propaganda claims that the SPD has been set on a coalition with the Greens for some time now.

If the SPD does nothing to counter this impression there will be only losers in the end — the SPD itself. Martin Winter

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 August 1989)



## BUSINESS

### Daimler-Benz merger plan gets support

**DIE ZEIT**

The Monopolies Commission has approved the proposed merger of carmakers Daimler-Benz and aerospace specialists Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB).

The Commission is not to be confused with the Berlin-based Kartellsamt, or Monopolies Office which has powers to punish offenders and prevent takeovers. Only the minister can overrule it. The Commission's advisory.

It was a majority decision, with four in favour and one against. The merger is favoured by the Bonn government, but the approval will have taken a weight off FDP Economics Minister Helmut Haussmann's shoulders.

One of the four in favour, Winfried Haasterl, a director of Thyssen industries, had been unconditionally in favour.

There was only one dissenting voice among the two scientists and three business people on the commission — Professor Ulrich Immenga, the chairman. He has long been known to disapprove of the bid.

It will make what is already the largest German industrial company, Daimler-Benz, even larger and in charge of what will be the largest German arms manufacturer by far.

"I personally," Göttingen commercial lawyer Professor Immenga said weeks ago, "can see no serious points in the merger's favour." But he was outvoted.

For Helmut Haussmann the commission's go-ahead came as an enormous relief after the merger, inaugurated by his predecessor, Martin Bangemann, had been vetoed in an unusually detailed and highly-rated ruling by the Federal Monopolies Office, Berlin.

Suddenly, the responsibility lay with the Minister, and it weighed heavily on him.

He could overrule the Monopolies Office if he felt the merger was of overriding economic benefit for the country, but the situation was extremely difficult for Herr Haussmann, who only took over the economic affairs portfolio at the end of last year.

Even Daimler-Benz and MBB experts were taken aback by the quality of the arguments marshalled against the merger by the Monopolies Office, which felt the two together would have a market-dominating position, especially in armaments.

True enough, Daimler and MBB would jointly be the largest arms manufacturer in Europe. The Bundeswehr, which buys 80 per cent of its equipment in Germany, could hardly cut it out of a major contract.

So it was hard for the Minister to create the impression that he was able to arrive at an absolutely impartial decision on such an important issue.

In reality, his hands were tied from the outset. What his predecessor had publicly approved and encouraged to the best of his ability could hardly be dismissed as not in the public interest by a fellow-Free Democrat.

The Monopolies Commission's opinion suited him down to the ground, especially as he has to give its views a hearing before overriding the Monopolies Office's veto.

The Monopolies Commission maintains a watching brief on mergers and acquisitions in the Federal Republic of Germany, publishing regular and one-off reports. Herr Haussmann can now claim to have been advised by this official body in the merger's favour.

He would in any case have found it difficult to veto the merger. Herr Bangemann, when he was Minister, and Erich Riedl, CSU, as state secretary at the Ministry, had virtually assured the merger candidates of Ministerial approval.

There are persistent rumours that Daimler-Benz board chairman Edzard Reuter has even been given so official assurance to this effect by the Ministry. Early this year Professor Immenga dismissed the entire procedure as a farce. He was incensed that a Federal government which was in favour of the merger was in a position to override a veto.

What particularly riled him, as a lawyer, was that the Federal government was in the throes of undermining its own anti-monopoly legislation. "The entire procedure is a mockery," he complained.

Headless of the Monopolies Office's strongly-worded veto of last April, the two companies have gone ahead with merger preparations so determinedly that they seem absolutely sure of themselves.

"We are confident the decision will be in (the merger's) favour," Jürgen Schrempp, board chairman of Daimler subsidiary Deutsche Aerospace, has repeatedly said.

Deutsche Aerospace is planned to combine the operations of AEG, MTU, Dornier and MBB, resulting in a Daimler division with DM12bn in turnover and a payroll of roughly 60,000.

Including MBB, the Daimler group will be the largest German company by far, with DM80bn in turnover and a payroll of roughly 380,000.

Even before Deutsche Aerospace was set up, in mid-May, Daimler arranged for MBB executives to serve on the board of directors.

Daimler even said who was to succeed Hans Arnt Vogels at the helm of MBB. It was to be Johann Schäffler, at present board chairman of Daimler subsidiary Dornier. Even the name Dautsch-Aerospace exuded self-confidence.

Continued on page 7

## Shock over insurance firm's sale to French bidder

Some firms try to ward off corporate raiders, others readily sell a majority holding to foreign buyers. Some see independence as their salvation in the European internal market; the large Colonie insurance group has preferred to join forces with Victoire, leading French insurer. But there is much more to this Franco-German agreement than meets the eye.

The sale of the second-largest German insurance group, Colonie of Cologne, by the group's majority shareholder, private bank Sal. Oppenheim & Cie of Cologne and Frankfurt (with 53 per cent of Colonie's DM130m in paid-up capital), has been the surprise of the German insurance industry this year.

An insurance company doesn't change hands every day of the week for one, especially in the Federal Republic of Germany. For another, the sums involved are virtually unprecedented, both in Germany and in Europe.

Why did Oppenheim choose to sell their shareholding to a French bidder? Maybe because of an intellectual affinity between neighbouring France and Germany, but surely because Victoire, the buyer, is an insurance group and not a bank.

If Oppenheim had sold their stake to a bank they would merely have saddled themselves with yet another banking competitor.

Sal. Oppenheim & Cie, private bankers for over 200 years, need cash, and plenty of it, to go it alone in Europe, which is easier said than done for a private bank.

The bank is shortly to be converted into a limited partnership with DM1bn in share capital. That surely speaks for itself.

Oppenheim hope to kill two birds with one stone by selling part of their insurance stake (an expanding business that has become increasingly difficult to accommodate within the bank's terms of reference) and raising capital badly needed to expand banking activities.

Winterthur is now likely to sell its stake in Nordstern. It failed, like a dozen other European insurance companies, to make the running.

In the Federal Republic any merger of this size would be sure to run into trouble with the Cartels authority which is in Berlin.

In domestic terms a merger of this size would justifiably have given rise to fears lest competition was in jeopardy; in the European market Colonie and Victoire are welcome partners.

British and Italian insurers were among the losers. They too would have loved to buy into an existing company in

## A monopolies watchdog

The Monopolies Commission was set up in 1973 to maintain a watching brief on mergers and acquisitions in Germany and to compile reports on them.

It was also to propose any amendments it felt were needed to anti-monopoly legislation.

The commission's five members are appointed by the Federal President on the advice of the Federal government to serve four-year terms. They must be independent and not serve industrial or commercial interests of any kind.

The other three members are from industry. They are Winfried Haasterl, labour director of Thyssen Industries, Wolfgang Herlein, a middle-ranking entrepreneur, and Elke Weber-Braun, an entrepreneur and chartered accountant. *dpa/wvd/pap* (Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 3 August 1989)

## THE STOCK MARKETS

### Questions about role of banks as day of computer broking dawns

The leading German banks and the country's eight stock exchanges have agreed to step up computer trading in shares and bonds.

Computer trading is to help ensure that Frankfurt continues to hold its own alongside other international financial centres.

The banks first plan to run unlisted market dealings, then institutional trading in standard stock and Federal bonds via Ibis, the (computerised) inter-bank information system.

Computer trading is later to develop into a full-scale stock exchange, under government supervision, in its own right.

Conventional trading will continue, but only private investors' business and trading in regionally quoted shares will be handled on the floor.

In arriving at a fundamental decision in favour of computer trading, the banks and stock exchanges have laid a foundation that should help to ensure that Germany remains competitive as a financial centre.

That still leaves organisational questions unanswered. A decision has yet, for instance, to be reached on whether computer trading is to be based on the auction or the market-maker principle.

From the banks' point of view there are sound arguments in favour of the market-maker principle.

The market-maker must be prepared to buy and sell certain quantities of stock at the prices he quotes, personally or by computer.

This system is used in London, Tokyo and New York. Computer programs are available.

For this reason alone the market-maker system is likely to be less expensive to set up than an alternative based on the auction principle.

Yet he ruled out raising outside capital while stressing the need to "selectively pick up or set up one business or another in Europe."

Colonie and Victoire, who jointly rank as No. 5 in Europe, are well matched. They know each other well from years of cooperation.

Victoire is the largest private insurer in France. Colonie has valuable knowledge in industrial insurance and a considerable reinsurance capacity.

Both groups are Europeans in orientation, while Colonie does a substantial amount of business in non-European Community countries.

Now the seemingly impossible has happened and a leading German insurance company has been taken over by an outsider, the industry is wondering who is next in line to be taken over.

Nürnberg has gone to ground by limiting voting rights and issuing registered shares that can only change hands subject to company approval.

Mannheimer has issued registered shares and feels secure with its majority shareholder.

Victoria has issued registered shares in the names of other insurers who are keen to see the Düsseldorf-based company stay independent.

The many mutual life insurers and public institutions are in no danger of being taken over. They are not for sale. But they may well trail the others in post-1992 Europe. *Herald, Poinciana* (Die Welt, Bonn, 31 July 1989)



cially if no-one else is trading in a given paper, to stop buying shares and bonds.

Unlike the market-maker, the "computerised broker" has no personal interest, no matter how marginal, that might find its way into the way in which quotations are calculated.

Electronic data processing would thus be the most impartial manner of arriving at stock quotations at present conceivable. What is more, the "market-depth" of the auction principle is greater.

Supply and demand are calculated on the basis of a wider range of dealings, probably resulting in less drastic fluctuations in the long term.

Computer trading has its drawbacks too, of course. Computer technology and software have yet to be put through their paces on a large scale on the world's leading stock exchanges.

So a computerised system along auction lines would probably be slower and more expensive than the market-maker alternative, although experience gained

at smaller stock exchanges and in certain markets at larger centres has shown that computers are well able to handle broker functions.

So time is on the side of computer trading based on the auction principle.

In deciding, after lengthy hesitation, to go ahead with computer trading, German banks have laid the groundwork for ensuring that Germany remains internationally competitive as a financial centre.

It was, presumably, the only way in which the banks could ensure there was a constantly operational market on which shares and bonds were traded fast and inexpensively — as expected by institutional investors.

It is a move that will strengthen Frankfurt's position as a financial centre, since the computerised stock exchange will presumably be located there.

The next moves require careful consideration. Computer trading along auction lines would seem to be preferable alternative.

No matter how the computerised market is run, in technical terms, care must be taken to ensure that the stock exchange is not monopolised by the banks.

Suspicions that the lack of tangible clarity in computer trading was a cover-up for a conspiracy on the part of the leading German banks would be grist to the mill of debate on "the power of the banks."

**Thomas Knipp**  
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 August 1989)

It is a condition that has two advantages. The first is the welcome opportunity it will provide for the Minister to pose not as a Daimler-Benz stooge but as a plucky politician who has forced the industrial giant to make concessions.

The other is that Daimler-Benz will not in the least be upset, the condition being one that the group's aerospace strategy will take in its stride.

Herr Haussmann seems likely to insist on MBB selling its stake in Krauss-Maffei of Munich before he will sanction the Daimler-MBB merger.

Krauss-Maffei, with about DM1.5bn in turnover and a payroll of roughly 5,000, mainly makes tanks.

Neither Daimler-Benz nor MBB stands to lose much from parting company with a 12.5-per-cent stake in Krauss-Maffei, of which Bavaria is the major shareholder.

Besides, Daimler executives could well do without the negative kudos of a tank factory with meagre profits and military contracts that have been on the decline for years.

**Karl-Heinz Büschmann**  
(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 4 August 1989)

## 200,000 suppliers of 70,000 products 'made in Germany'



### Who manufactures what?

Find suppliers and products, send for quotations, compare prices, track down specific sources of supply, cut costs by buying at lower prices.

This is a reference work every buying department should have at the ready.

Easy to use, just like an encyclopaedia.

Products, including 9,000 trade marks, are arranged alphabetically, complete with

### Manufacturer's or supplier's address:

A telephone number is listed for each supplier.

1,400 pages A4, indexed in English and French.

Price: DM104.88 post free in Germany, DM113 cif abroad.

Air mail extra.

### Order direct from us or from your regular bookseller.



Erfahrung und Innovation  
Postfach 11 04 52  
D-6100 Darmstadt  
Federal Republic of Germany  
Tel.: (0 61 51) 3 81-0

## ■ AGRICULTURE

## Direct buying gains popularity: Emma comes home beautifully packed

For more than four years, Heinz Brandeis, a secondary school teacher from Dortmund, has set off once a month in his car with his wife and three children for an 80-kilometre journey to the Münsterland region.

During their last trip they all looked forward to seeing how Emma was coming along.

Soon, Emma will accompany the Brandeis family back to Dortmund — cut up in nice little pieces in the boot of their car.

For all those who have not guessed, Emma is a fully-grown pig at its tastiest age. A kind of foster pig.

Emma and her fellow swine were adopted by the city people when they piglets. The adoptive family thus ensures a future option on ham and sausages.

In the pigsties of farmer Hartmut Wieschke, whose rent-a-pig idea not only makes him independent of the fluctuating market prices for pork produce but also provides him with a regular basic monthly income, roughly three dozen pigs can be regularly heard grunting.

The whole venture has the noble prefix "Bio." The "godfathers" of the pigs pay DM52 a month per head of pig.

In return they receive a professionally dissected and biologically fattened pig in deep-freeze packaging after one year.

Just as meteorologists give names to their hurricanes the Brandeis family has given names to its adopted pigs in alphabetical order.

The first in the series was Amanda, which ended up in cutlet form in 1985. Emma is number five; number six will be called Frieda.

The family keeps a wary eye on the biography of their meat suppliers and combines control checks with a shopping outing to buy fresh vegetables, eggs and other biologically grown food.

Farmer Wieschke is satisfied with the way things have worked out. No matter what he produces it is all sold to his regular customers from the city.

His 60-hectare estate produces almost all types of food. He has no worries about transport.

His customers turn up regularly on weekends. He often has to turn one of his fields into a car park.

On Sunday afternoons the farm looks like something out of Disneyland. On sunny days in June farmer Wieschke's wife has often baked over 12 trays — 144 portions — of strawberry cake. Daughter Beatrix tops up her pocket money by making coffee and cocoa.

The enterprising sideline probably takes place unknown to the finance office. Farm subsidies without the red tape, so to speak.

When the visitors come along Wieschke has plenty to do keeping the "strays" away from his animals.

As he uses no chemical powders or injections, he sometimes has trouble making sure the visitors do not make the pigs too nervous.

"Aa a rule," he says, "we don't have any problems. After all, chickens and roosters, pigs and cattle grew up together with loads of children at farms a hundred years ago."

No cock crows when four-year-old Sven starts chasing a hen or ten-year-



old Annabel starts pulling the pig's tail. On-the-spot biology? Natural science first-hand?

German city dwellers have long since realised that city life does not provide the freedom once praised at the beginning of industrialisation.

People who have only ever seen (purple) cows in chocolate commercials, pigs cut up in their various parts and packaged in plastic in supermarkets, and who are not really certain whether rabbits lay eggs have an irresistible urge to return to nature.

Parents who have to bring up their children in an asphalt jungle with a decorative dash of test-tube green are not only keen on finding buttercup meadows and peaceful forests, but also on tracing the roots of their ancestors.

Above all, however, watery and wrinkled steaks, standardised Euro-tomatoes and vegetables, which differ at most in appearance but not in taste, have turned consumers against the "blessings" of industrialised farming.

Consumers are also unhappy about lengthy distribution channels and food processing which robs the food of its natural origins.

A number of farmers have recognised this trend and set up a direct marketing network.

Officials estimate the number of "supermarkets between shed and barn" at 25,000 or more throughout the land — with a rising trend.

A specialist farming journal recently discovered that almost all West Germans (94 per cent) would prefer to buy their food directly from the producer.

This is precisely what more and more people are doing. Apart from the farms there is a growing interest in weekly markets.

For decades they had at most nostalgic value in the historically revamped inner cities.

Thousands of farmers stack up their lorries in the early morning with fruit, vegetables and eggs and sell their wares in urban residential areas. They have no sales problems.

In the vicinity of Paderborn one mobile farmer sells the milk from his own cows in reusable bottles which are filled on the doorstep.

And what about hygiene problems and food quality control?

The clever farmer explains the secret of his: "The customers know what they are buying. And no-one has ever got cancer by drinking sour fresh milk."

Five housewives nod in agreement, visibly grateful for the goods the farmer brings to their door.

Apart from the milk the farmer also sells lumps of butter wrapped in ordinary greaseproof paper.

The smell reminds many people of their childhood years, back in the days when butter smelt like butter.

This reminds Wieschke of the time years ago when the people came out foraging to find food to survive.

In those days, however, they paid for vegetables and cutlets with carrots and household goods. Today Wieschke only accepts cash.

Carlheinz Willmann  
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt  
Hamburg 28 July 1989)

The farmers are obviously more than pleased about the growing popularity of direct buying.

Many farmers openly admit that they would have long since had to close down their farms were it not for the loyalty of their city customers.

Bureaucrats, of course, have also noticed the growing popularity of the distribution channels.

Farmer Wieschke feels certain that if they had their way everything would be regulated and perhaps fixed prices introduced.

Together with his other direct marketing colleagues he is convinced that the customers would then stop buying.

"They want to bargain and go home with the feeling that they have made a good deal."

The price of vegetables, potatoes, eggs and poultry is often much lower when produce is bought directly from the producer than in the next best supermarket.

Of course, this does not include the costs of getting to the farms out in the country.

Some people combine their shopping spree with a weekend trip, like the Brandeis family. The farm becomes a kind of leisure park.

Although not everything is "biologically" grown on the farms the produce does have the advantage of being fresh.

Not only nature-loving muesli freaks turn up. Most of the customers are better-off middle-class families.

Farmer Wieschke, however, has also detected a number of not so well-off customers who come from the city of Münster 25 kilometres away from his farm. They cycle out to the farm, Düsseldorf front with a small trailer.

This reminds Wieschke of the time years ago when the people came out foraging to find food to survive.

In those days, however, they paid for vegetables and cutlets with carrots and household goods. Today Wieschke only accepts cash.

Carlheinz Willmann  
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt  
Hamburg 28 July 1989)

## A farmer abandons pesticides and regains his health

**F**armer Walter Gaiser used to spray chemicals on his crops. He used to feel ill and his health deteriorated.

Then he found the answer. No chemicals. He turned to biological farming. That was 20 years ago.

Today, Gaiser, who comes from Waldorfshäslach, near Tübingen, says he feels much healthier and has no trouble working. This is something of an understatement in view of the fact that he works a 12-hour day.

Organic-biological farming, however, is not as profitable. But he is able to get higher prices for cleaner and more natural produce, a market niche which ensures a livelihood for a growing number of farmers.

The higher prices for produce grown on an organic-biological basis seem justified when Gaiser starts explaining just what is involved.

The yield is often smaller, the cultivations take longer to mature, and there is more cost-intensive manual work.

If the growing number of farmers who switch over to this approach is anything to go by the additional time and effort, however, would appear to be worthwhile.

One of these farmers is Peter Bosch from Tübingen, who used to favour conventional farming methods.

During recent years he has made less use of chemical sprays and fertiliser. Now he intends switching over altogether to organic-biological farming.

He hopes that the state subsidy paid to farmers who agree to grow less will provide a financial safeguard.

Boach feels that adopting the new approach is a chance for the future.

Gaiser is able to keep up with the trends which make the range of food people eat much more colourful than they used to be.

He now grows all kinds of vegetables and salads and has no trouble finding

pigs Bosch's profit margin plummeted during recent years.

He even questions the use of the word "profit." He expects figures to move into the red in the next few years.

He hopes that organic-biological farming will improve his financial situation in the near future.

The Association of Organic-Biological Farming, Bioland, to which both Bosch and Gaiser belong, makes sure that consumers can trust in the natural quality of the produce of such farms.

The Association currently controls activities and operates in seven federal states.

In Baden-Württemberg 250 farms operate under the Bioland label.

The will to produce more as well as more cheaply has resulted in cleared out fields, the disappearance of certain types of plant, pollution of the ground water and a declining number of farms.

Helmut Gündert, the secretary of the Baden-Württemberg section of Bioland explained.

The Bioland farmers make a commitment to refrain from the use of chemicals, which explains the popularity of the organisation in industry.

Before a farm becomes a full member of Bioland it has to practise organic-biological farming in line with the requirements and under the control of the association for four years.

Val Müller  
(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 1 August 1989)

missions, manned or unmanned, would then be virtually impossible there.

The Brunswick research department's Peter Eichler warns against taking it easy. The risk of a collision with space debris is no longer an abstract problem. It has, he says, become a serious threat.

The impact of an object one centimetre in diameter has the explosive effect of a hand grenade. Armour plating is not enough. Debris must be spotted in advance and evasive action taken.

The Federal Research Ministry plans to act, having concentrated since 1986 on research to sound out the extent of the risk and the countermeasures that might be taken.

An Esa coordination unit is to be set up to liaise international activities. There are plans for a data bank in which to store details of space debris. Professor Rex has also suggested involving the United Nations.

Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber, CDU, can expect his fellow-Christian Democrats to dismiss these measures as insufficient.

Christian Lenzer, research expert of the CDU/CSU parliamentary party, has proposed an internationally administered fund to finance measures to eliminate space debris.

Whenever a satellite was launched, the operator would be required to pay an agreed contribution to this fund.

Herr Lenzer has called on the Federal government to submit by the year's end a report on activities it has undertaken to reduce the amount of dangerous debris in outer space.

The Research Ministry has yet to comment on either the fund or the call for a report to be issued. Frank J. Eichhorn

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 25 July 1989)

## ■ SPACE RESEARCH

## Rubbish orbiting at 20,000 mph brings the age of the armour-plated platform

Space research is increasingly becoming endangered by its own space garbage. Manned space missions, such as space stations or platforms, now need expensive armour plating.

The Federal Research Ministry in Bonn has commissioned a report on space debris from Brunswick University's department of space aviation and rocket technology.

The report will not rule out, "in the zone too distant future," and presupposing a further increase in international space research, manned missions becoming impossible because of the danger of a direct hit.

The risks space debris poses have yet to be fully appreciated, Professor Rex says. He feels the amount of debris would have been much lower if care had been taken soon enough to prevent spent rocket stages and satellites from exploding in outer space.

But as recently as in 1986 an upper stage of the Ariane, Europe's prestige launcher rocket, exploded in space and added to the carpet of orbital debris.

The experts recommend designing at least larger satellites and space stations so they can be returned to Earth in one piece at the end of their missions.

Professor Rex says satellites and space stations must either be reused or ditched at sea.

In the United States the President has ruled that space debris must be

avoided wherever possible, and this directive has resulted in corresponding projects being included in the US space research programme.

But an estimated 500 new items a year are put into orbit from all over the world, and there are no effective international controls. So debris continues to mount up, and with it the risks faced by space missions.

Research scientists distinguish between risk categories at specific altitudes. At low altitudes — of up to about 500km — the risk is said to be fairly low.

That is because debris at this altitude is braked by friction in the upper atmosphere. It usually either burns out or crash-lands back on Earth sooner or later, often within a few months.

At higher altitudes this self-cleansing effect no longer operates. Altitudes of between 800 and 1,000km and about 1,500km are classified as high-risk.

They are particularly dangerous because debris at these altitudes will stay there for thousands of years, and because space debris in these strata can, to all intents and purposes, only increase.

Even worse, the Brunswick scientists say collisions in these danger zones could cause even more debris, leading to further collisions. Space

## Politics at first hand

Detailed and objective information is what you need if you are to hold your own on political and world affairs: facts on which to base your own political viewpoint.

*Aussenpolitik*, the quarterly foreign affairs review, gives you facts at first hand for an annual DM50 plus p&p. Write today for a sample copy of the English edition, at no obligation, to the publishers, INTERPRESS GmbH, Hartwickestr. 3-4, D-2000 Hamburg 76, Federal Republic of Germany. Tel. (040) 229 06 09.

**AUSSEN  
POLITIK**

German Foreign Affairs Review

Editorial Advisory Board:  
Hans Bachtold  
Editor-in-Chief:  
Hans Apel  
Harbert von Borch  
Klaus Ritter  
Walter Scheel  
Helmut Schmidt  
Horst Teltschik  
Richard von Weizsäcker  
Gerhard Wettig

Coupon for a sample copy —

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Country \_\_\_\_\_  
Profession \_\_\_\_\_

## Meteorological stations all over the world



supplied the data arranged in see-at-a-glance tables in these new reference works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency of thunderstorms.

These figures compiled over the years are invaluable both for planning journeys to distant countries and for scientific research.

Basic facts and figures for every country in the world form a preface to the tables. The emphasis is on the country's natural statistics, on climate, population, trade and transport.

The guides are handy in size and flexibly bound, indispensable for daily use in commerce, industry and the travel trade.

Four volumes are available:  
North and South America, 172 pp., DM 24.80;  
Asia/Australia, 240

## ■ THE ARTS

## Onslaught of philistines a dismal failure

**Stiddeutsche Zeitung**

All the talk and complaints about "supermarkets of culture", theatre as a place of distraction, and the alibi art of the rich, idlers and philistines do not appear to have had the desired effect: the big festivals are still "in."

Some people have been trying for years to get tickets for the Bayreuth *Ring der Nibelungen*, to experience one of the main works of Richard Strauss or to attend one of the big Salzburg premières.

In Bayreuth, where ten times as many tickets could be sold (the news that a Bayreuth production is to be presented in an opera house built especially for this purpose in Japan is regarded as a sensation) the dress rehearsals are also over-crowded and no artistic events.

Numerous authors and intellectuals, for example, came along to the dress rehearsal for *Siegfried* this year.

They uncomplainingly experienced how the second act of the dress rehearsal began with considerable delay because the dragon of all protagonists was indisposed.

The fact that the Bayreuth festival has (again) been taking place regularly since 1951 and the Salzburg festival (again) since 1945 can by no means be taken for granted.

It is a tremendous organisational achievement, the result of active cultural energy.

After Richard Wagner completed the first Bayreuth festival in 1876 with a huge financial loss no more festivals were held for six years.

The annoyed composer described the festival theatre as a "foolish mood" and wanted to emigrate to America.

During Cosima's production of *Tristan und Isolde* three years after Wagner died the festival theatre was almost empty. Only twelve tickets were sold for one of the performances.

The festival theatre was closed during the First World War and inflation impoverished the Wagner family.

The theatre reopened in 1924 with the *Meistersinger*. General Ludendorff was in the audience.

"The audience listens to the final address by Hans Sachs while standing and sings the German national anthem at the end of the performance."

Hitler patronised Bayreuth, provided 55,000 reichsmark for every new production, and could afford to send visiting cards to the entire audience:

"The Führer requests not to sing the national anthem or the Horst Wessel song or to engage in similar demonstrations at the end of the performance."

During the Second World War Bayreuth was by no means closed down.

The *Meistersinger* was performed in 1943 and 1944 in the stage-set of Wieland Wagner.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* reported that the wartime festival was intended as a token of respect for and contribution towards the final victory.

After 1951 Bayreuth fought to rid itself of the association with the Nazi era.

This was no easy task. As late as 1949, for example, the noble and unforgettable critic Count Johannes Kalckreuth wrote that "Attic performances" should be staged in Bayreuth — and if Bayreuth cannot respond appropriately to the turning point in world history: "Then it would be better to do without Bayreuth!"

The captivating artistic, intellectual and mythological-cum-political appeal and significance of the Wagnerian musical dramas pulled through, shaken by crises and marked by critical reviews which soon turned into approval and applause.

Wieland Wagner, one of Richard Wagner's grandsons, set new standards as director.

He announced that an end must be put to the popularity-seeking approach by Sachs.

This was his way of justifying his highly critical *Meistersinger* production together with the denazification of the Nuremberg cobbler Hans Sachs.

The activity of the other Wagner grandson as head of the festival was more important for Bayreuth's fate.

Wolfgang Wagner was able to sustain and increase Bayreuth's fascination up until today.

He feels that good theatre has just as much to do with persistence, cultivation, risk and the revolutionary.

By means of courageous and unforeseeable decisions for "renewers" (such as Patrice Chéreau and Harry Kupfer) as well as for "custodians" (such as Peter Hahn and Jean-Pierre Ponnelle) Wolfgang Wagner ensured that Bayreuth continues to attract the most brilliant directors and singers in the world.

Wolfgang Wagner, however, will be celebrating his 70th birthday on 30 August.

He seems just as unconcerned about Bayreuth's fate after he dies as Karajan was about who could be his successor in Salzburg.

Or is this Wotan by the name of Wolfgang, hopefully with more luck than the father of the gods, already training a new and young (perhaps female) Siegfried for Wagner's Valhalla?

The festival, however, is already in danger of being stifled by the sheer number of concerts.

Whereas Engholm would like to limit the size of the festival to between 140 and 200 concerts there are already 181 concerts in the official programme this year and the total number will increase to well over 200 due to additional concerts organised at short notice.

And there is no need for concern that the audience might start bawling. Deutschland, Deutschland über alles following Harry Kupfer's nuclear-contaminated, post-modern, indeed post-Chernobyl "Ring" cosmos. In Salzburg, which

Continued on page 13

is a spot of bother... Justus Frantz (Photo: Peter Feuer)

## Calls for music festival's director to resign now

A critical television report has renewed controversy over the director of the Schleswig-Holstein music festival, Justus Frantz.

The question of fees for the artists involved in the festival only appears to be the main bone of contention.

The real problem is the haggling over concepts, venues and festival responsibilities.

The dispute has damaged the festival's reputation, disturbed the overall atmosphere and had an adverse effect on ticket sales.

As no-one questions the festival's basic idea the time has come to answer the question whether this institution would be better off without Justus Frantz as its manager.

In March this year Frantz himself announced that he would be seeking a new task when his contract expires at the end of 1992.

"I would have done a bad job if it cannot continue without me," he said, adding that he is naturally replaceable.

Frantz critics and a growing number of music lovers, however, are beginning to ask themselves why bother waiting until 1992. The size of the festival has always been controversial.

Frantz began in 1986 with 100 concerts in six weeks. Last year the festival was extended to 10 weeks and included 331 concerts.

Many seats remain empty; 340,000 people cannot be persuaded to attend concerts in the concert halls, churches and barns every year in Schleswig-Holstein.

Schleswig-Holstein Premier Björn Engholm (SPD) has warned against making the biggest festival of classical music in the world even bigger.

The festival, however, is already in danger of being stifled by the sheer number of concerts.

According to reports by the NDR broadcasting corporation in Hamburg the young orchestra pupils hardly ever saw Frantz personally and were surprised to read the remarks by him in a popular daily newspaper following the death of Herbert von Karajan.

They are also reputed to have been irritated at rumours that the festival director collected DM25,000 for a concert in Berlin.

More and more people are asking whether pianist Frantz, who owes part of his current image to the festival, is primarily interested in the festival as a business venture.

As a director of the festival he earns an annual income of DM180,000 plus expenses.

What is more, he earns plenty of cash every time he appears as a pianist and, according to the television report, he also earns DM150,000 a year as an orchestra adviser to the Bayrischer Rundfunk radio station.

There are also rumours that he intends becoming professor at the Hamberg College of Music.

As all these things have been the subject of public discussion for many months now no-one is surprised that the festival's reputation has suffered.

The dispute over the transfer of the festival directorship to Hamburg, the extension of the festival to the Lower Saxony and the director's flight to America in a Concorde are still in the



In a spot of bother... Justus Frantz (Photo: Peter Feuer)

## ■ THE ARTS

## Death of author, political scientist and essayist

Author, political scientist and philosopher Dolf Sternberger has died just one day before his 82nd birthday. Between 1962 and his retirement in 1979, he was director of the Institute of Political Sciences. He wrote for the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* and, between 1964 and 1970, was president of the authors' association, PEN, in Germany. He made a name as a witty essayist.

He insisted that practice must pass judgement on all political theory.

In his scientific analyses of power, the state and the constitution he focused on the concrete individual as the object and addressee of politics.

He insisted that practice must pass judgement on all political theory.

His presidential demeanour and a mixture of warmth and an enthusiasm for discussion and integrity made him the centre of attention wherever he appeared.

Sternberger basically gauged politics according to strict moral criteria.

Not, however, from a position of arrogant dissociation from reality, a stance which he classed as one of the reasons for German distress.

He never drifted into the jarring or extreme, but tried to show reason is superior to what is merely original. Once again an exception.

The differentiations he regarded as undeniable were very simple.

In the final volume of his collected works he wrote that the contrast between good and evil crops up again and again in his works as "an everlasting characteristic of human existence".

He maintained that the experience of this century has "fundamentally disproved the hallucination of a mortal emancipation once and for all."

"Beyond good and evil there is in reality no more to experience than even more evil."

He was constantly aware of the fact that a democratic polity is a risky and



In tradition of French moralists... Dolf Sternberger. (Photo: Arlette Friedrich)

Perhaps there is a formula which links and perhaps reconciles philosophy and politics.

Sternberger basically continued the tradition of the French moralists in the German language.

His philosophising is not aimed at developing self-contained conceptual systems nor designs of the world, but has no other objective but to teach people the art of living: in the political and in the private sphere.

He once pointed out that his use of the word "essay" is a token of respect for the French word *essai*. In his journalistic work he was inspired by the free and playful style of thinking of the moralists.

All past histories were readily retrievable, in his eyes no more than a different present.

This enabled him to uncover nine profound historical interpretations beneath passing and trivial phenomena and detect the special historical details of everyday life.

In one of his books he discovered the characteristic elements of the physiognomy of an epoch in the panoramic pictures of the 19th century and made Marlene Dietrich a key figure of a cryptic interpretation of a certain period.

In this and in other works which demonstrated his delight in vivid and lively details he showed that the essence can be illustrated in the light of apparently insignificant factors and that there are no banal phenomena, merely banal outlooks.

Together with the French moralists his style was also marked by an incessant reflection on death, which was already the subject of his doctoral thesis.

If philosophy's intention is to teach life, then to teach death too.

This, however, is where thought was confronted by an insurmountable obstacle.

The encyclopaedia sets out to do more than just define. The five volumes, each with 1,000 pages, and the total of 1,300 headwords are designed as a "practical" aid, the organisational head of the project Gregor Kalliova explained.

The dictionary is intended as a reference book for teachers, experts on German language and literature, politicians, journalists or theologians.

Categories such as *Beweis* (proof, evidence) or *Jesuiten-Rhetorik* (rhetoric of the Jesuits) are just as much a part of the dictionary as terms from the fields of homiletics and communication sciences; animation can be found alongside New Rhetoric or advertising.

Four experts are preparing the first volume for publication in 1991. Although the project funds are limited the mood is optimistic. In November a large symposium on this subject will be taking place with guests from Germany and abroad.

The renowned Niemeyer publishing house in Tübingen, which specialises in academic literature, has already agreed to publish the dictionary.

**Reinhard Tschapke**  
(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland*, 28 July 1989)

## Filling in some rhetorical empty spaces

What does rhetoric require? William Hamilton, a keen observer of the British parliament in the 18th century, listed five key aspects: ideas, order, eloquence, memory and elocution.

Hamilton knew what was needed and lived in a country with high regard for the art of rhetoric.

This was not the case in Germany. Rhetoric was viewed disdainfully ever since it was criticised by Kant and Schiller as well as by the Romantics.

The result is only too familiar: the equation of rhetoric with propaganda. The indoctrinator of the people Goebbels was thus presented as a great "rhetor".

It is hardly surprising that research also suffered and still suffers from such mis-judgements.

One can only hope that the publication of an encyclopaedia on rhetoric will eliminate the prejudices and help meet the requirements of a society in which language is of paramount significance.

Wherever consensus has to be found on difficult problems, specific research findings "translated" from specialist jargon or an interview becomes decisive for an application of rhetoric is all-important.

It goes without saying that it is (or should be) of prime importance in the world of politics, from Bismarck and Bebel to the German Bundestag.

In Tübingen an "Historical Dictionary of Rhetoric" is also being compiled. It makes it clear that the aim of rhetoric was never to turn black into white. The ethics of the speaker must never pale into insignificance behind the technique of speaking.

Since 1987 the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft has been sponsoring a project initiated by Gert Ueding, the director of the Seminar for General Rhetoric, which is being developed together with a philosophical dictionary.

Up to now there have been many brochures and booklets on the subject of rhetoric, but nothing more fundamental and comprehensive.

The encyclopaedia will include all significant terms and concepts, from A for *Affekte* (affects) to Z for *Zynismus* (cynicism).

The dictionary sets out to do more than just define. The five volumes, each with 1,000 pages, and the total of 1,300 headwords are designed as a "practical" aid, the organisational head of the project Gregor Kalliova explained.

The dictionary is intended as a reference book for teachers, experts on German language and literature, politicians, journalists or theologians.

Categories such as *Beweis* (proof, evidence) or *Jesuiten-Rhetorik* (rhetoric of the Jesuits) are just as much a part of the dictionary as terms from the fields of homiletics and communication sciences; animation can be found alongside New Rhetoric or advertising.

Four experts are preparing the first volume for publication in 1991. Although the project funds are limited the mood is optimistic. In November a large symposium on this subject will be taking place with guests from Germany and abroad.

The renowned Niemeyer publishing house in Tübingen, which specialises in academic literature, has already agreed to publish the dictionary.

**Jörg Hartmann**  
(*Die Welt*, Bonn, 20 July 1989)

## EDUCATION

### An international comparison of study habits

The post-1992 internal market will herald Europe as both an economic and an educational entity. So increasing importance must be attached to the different national education systems, which is why the Bonn Education Ministry has carried out a survey on the time spent at university and the average age of graduates in seven industrialised countries. Ulrich Teichler and Wolfgang Steube of Kassel University vocational and university research centre here outline the survey's findings.

**R**egular statistical surveys in most of the seven countries (Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United States) fail to answer in full the following three questions:

- How old are students when they go to university?
- How long do they take to complete their university studies?
- How old are they when they graduate?

This doesn't mean the questions must remain unanswered. In some countries figures are compiled on a number of important aspects; in some cases occasional probes or surveys of limited sectors at university are helpful.

Differences between the countries concerned are to some extent structurally predetermined. The age at which children first go to school, the number of years they spend there and the prescribed length of university courses differ.

In all countries covered, medical degree courses took between five and a half and seven years, frequently including traineeships.

The Netherlands excepted, all also have other specific degree courses that take longer than most others.

Yet in most countries degree courses generally take an accepted length of time: three years in England and Wales and four years in Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Scotland and the United States.

In Sweden the length varies considerably from course to course. In France there are further distinctions between categories of degree and, for that matter, of university.

Even so, generally speaking students who go straight from school to university and don't read subjects that take longer, such as medicine, graduate at 21 or 22 in Britain.

In the United States, France, Japan and the Netherlands they graduate at 22 or 23, in Sweden at between 22 and 24, in Italy at between 23 and 25.

In the Federal Republic of Germany graduation at 23 is virtually impossible. For all practical purposes no German students can hope to graduate before they are 24.

They will then have spent 13 years of school, followed by nine or ten semesters at university.

These figures don't take late starters into account; they can be due to factors beyond the universities' control, such as repeating a school year or doing military service (or its social service alternative for conscientious objectors).

Repeating a school year is almost unknown in Japan and the United States and most unusual in Britain and Sweden.

In France, Italy and the Netherlands it is far from uncommon. In some of the countries covered, many male students do military (or social) service prior to or during their university careers.

Conscription is the rule in France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden.

In countries where students are fairly young when they graduate — Britain, Japan and the United States — there are professional armies or self-defence forces.

As for the speed at which students go through their course of study, there are two distinct categories of country:

- those where school-leavers go straight to university and generally complete their course in a prearranged period, such as Britain and Japan;
- and those where interim periods between leaving school and going to university, or studying for longer periods, is considered to be either the rule or inevitable and, in practice, is far from uncommon.

This is to some extent the case in France, definitely so in Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden. Germany also comes in this category.

- The United States does not fit into either category. It has a variety of standards and practices.

In Britain going straight from school to university and graduating in three or four years' time is considered a matter of course. Facilities for mature students, such as the Open University, evening classes, polytechnics and the like, are regarded as separate and distinct.

In Japan too, going straight from school to university is the rule. Career and social status is more heavily subject than in other countries to the university where Japanese graduates studied and to their age. So it goes without saying that the year of birth and the year of graduation are a known factor where many colleagues are concerned. Know the one and you can be fairly sure of knowing the other.

In France, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden — not to mention the Federal Republic of Germany — only a minority of students seem to complete their courses in the approved period.

On average, this period is exceeded by 40 per cent or more.

Interestingly, in all these countries except France a striking number of young people — probably between 20 and 40 per cent — do not go straight from school to university.

Yet only in Sweden are interruptions, part-time studies, short or sandwich courses a widespread phenomenon (and even more widespread when courses lasting less than three years are taken into account).

The United States cannot be pigeonholed as a country with either "fast" or "slow" university courses. Over 90 per cent of full-time students go straight from school to college, and over half of them graduate as bachelors in, as a rule, four years. So differences in the length of time university students spend studying for a degree and their age on graduation are substantial in the countries covered.

This can be due to structural criteria or to the pattern of the course of study. It may be due to the university or to the student or to other factors.

Where the length of time taken to graduate is concerned, the following conclusions may be reached:

- In Britain a first degree takes less than three years on average. In Japan it takes about four and a half years.
- In the Netherlands, Sweden and the United States, students take between five and six years to complete their degree courses.

In France, Germany and Italy, university students take about seven years to graduate.

Ulrich Teichler/Wolfgang Steube

(Die Welt, Bonn, 25 July 1989)

## Religious instruction: too few pupils, too few teachers

**R**eligious instruction is the only subject that the constitution says must be offered at state schools.

Attendance is not compulsory and absence rates are high; and there are not enough teachers to teach it.

Both teachers and churchmen complain about the lack of interest among pupils. Some parents feel that lessons are too pious. Others would like to see more emphasis placed on purely religious aspects.

There are those who say the church should keep out of religious education in schools altogether and concentrate on its main task, catechism in the parishes.

To gather more exact information, the Commission for Education and Schools of the German Bishops' Conference commissioned two surveys by Allensbach opinion pollsters.

Questions were put to 810 Catholic religion teachers and 1,094 pupils from all types of school about their feelings about religion, the church and religious instruction.

Almost 80 per cent of West German Catholics favour religious instruction (only four per cent reject it altogether), but they would like to see the promotion of qualities such as consideration for others, tolerance, social commitment and the development of personality as the primary learning goals. Aspects such as faith and the teaching of the church are viewed as only secondary elements.

The Allensbach survey interprets these findings as a secularised redefinition of the tasks of religious instruction which would then be widely accepted by sections of the populations which do not have such close church ties.

Twenty-four per cent described themselves as "not religious" and 28 per cent were "undecided."

Twenty-nine per cent said they went to church "every or almost every Sunday"; 55 per cent went "seldom"; and 16 per cent "never."

Forty per cent of the pupils who claimed that they were religious expressed their dissatisfaction with the

Catholic church in its present form. Only 10 per cent said that they expressly approved of its image.

A breakdown of the types of school reveals that religiousness, going to church and the church as an institution are most popular among grammar school pupils and least popular in technical colleges.

This is also apparent with respect to the question of absence from religion lessons.

Although the rate of absence increases with the age of the pupils these rates are much higher in the technical colleges than in the senior classes of the grammar schools — despite the fact that the average age of the pupils in the latter is higher.

Almost 40 per cent had once considered no longer attending religion lessons.

On a nationwide basis between 15 and 20 per cent of all pupils opt out.

The surveys showed that the degree of religiousness is closely connected with the attitude of the parents towards religion and the church.

Seventy-six per cent of those children who described their parents as "very religious" also described themselves as "very religious"; only 12 per cent of the children in this category stated that they were "not religious."

Norbert Götter

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 21 July 1989)

had not experienced "practical religion" at home stated that they had no ties to the church. Only 15 per cent of the pupils in this group stated the opposite.

Most of the religious and non-religious pupils are indifferent towards religious instruction; fewer pupils reject it altogether.

The findings make it clear that a child's parental background is a much more formative factor when it comes to religion than religious instruction at school.

Religion lessons are more likely to consolidate the religiousness already fostered by the parents.

The Allensbach study warns against expecting too much of religious education at school.

A back-up study to the main survey revealed that the governing bodies of the church and traditionally-minded Christians tend to expect too much of religious instruction rather than the public at large.

The occasion? Eight judges of the Federal Constitutional Court had given a preliminary go ahead to mining operations in a disputed area containing the Wald und Schloss von Cappenberg (the forest and castle at Cappenberg).

Poet Matthias Claudius once said: "The (now affected) forest stands black and silent." The judges have the job of deciding the forest's future. What they decide will not necessarily be a compromise.

This interim injunction marks one stage of a long legal dispute between the Essen-based Ruhrkohle AG and the combative Carl Albrecht Graf von Kanitz, the owner of Schloss und Wald Cappenberg. Beneath his property is an area south of Münster, Ruhrkohle has been mining coal for a year. For more than four years, Kanitz, a lawyer and farmer, has been trying to get a ban on mining. It has been an expensive process for both parties in terms of money, time and nerves.

And it will be another two years before the judges give their last word on the subject: economy versus ecology, energy versus protection of monuments, jobs versus the environment, the public interest versus property ownership.

Of a list of 22 possible tasks for religious instruction the most frequently favoured were: the development of the personality and the encouragement of social commitment, the teaching of the Gospel and the discussion of questions relating to the meaning of life.

The consolidation of ties to the church or stating the "positions of the church", on the other hand, were among the six least popular tasks.

To infer from these findings that religion teachers are not "church-oriented" would fail to do justice to the situation.

The proximity of religion teachers to the official position of the church on certain issues depends on the problems and issues involved.

Aspects relating to the protection of life and human rights received popularity ratings of up to 80 per cent.

This "solidarity" falls to up to 20 per cent in the more controversial fields such as coitus interdiction, divorce, celibacy and papacy."

The broadly-based Allensbach study does not claim to provide a conclusive concept.

Its intention is to give all the parties concerned facts and figures for a discussion on the future of religious instruction which can no longer be deferred.

Norbert Götter

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 21 July 1989)



There will be no compromise... Graf Kanitz on his Cappenberg estate.

(Photo: Manfred Vollmer)

seams north of the Ruhr in south Münsterland. A long-running legal battle has developed between the company and one of the landowners involved, Carl Albrecht Graf von Kanitz. He says the ground will subside and buildings, especially a castle he owns called Schloss Cappenberg, will be badly damaged. Ruhrkohle AG say the ground will not sink all that much and that, in any case, the sinking will be spread evenly over a 10-square-kilometre basin so that visually nothing will change. Now a preliminary court decision has given Ruhrkohle a first victory. It is allowed to tunnel some of the way. But a final decision is to be handed down in two years. Erwin Schneider takes up the story for the national daily, *Die Welt*.

depends so much on state support, costs must be kept as low as possible. The plans for Cappenberg were part of the scheme to hold costs down.

And the Land Economics Minister, Reimut Jochimsen, SPD, says: "Coal mining takes place in the public interest."

Graf Kanitz does not dispute that. But he says that there are alternative areas where pits could be opened. Ruhrkohle AG does not accept that there are. Schucht told the court that a pit in a neighbouring area would be closed in five years when it would be exhausted.

He asked the court not to make that fact public as a decision had not been taken. It stirred up a hornets' nest. The miners were outraged. Their representatives demanded explanations and spoke of lies.

But Schucht said in clarification: "Any other calculation is just naive. Everyone knows it. The fact is we have 15 million tons of coal and mine two million tons a year. There won't be any left in seven years."

Although German coal cannot compete on the world markets, it will continue to figure in domestic energy into the 21st century. That is a political decision. That means new seams must be opened to the north of the Ruhr.

Ruhrkohle won this first legal skirmish because the court could see no acute danger to castle and forest. Now the question for the court to answer is: what is the value of a monument? Because only the forest stands black and silent.

Erwin Schneider

(*Die Welt*, Bonn, 1 August 1989)

nued with only more or less interesting modern characteristics.

Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Max Reinhardt and Richard Strauss lent their support to maintain the Salzburg festival, and during the Nazi period Bruno Walter was able (up until 1937) to turn his back on Hitler's Bayreuth and allow Lotte Lehmann or a Rosé quartet to perform there.

Although Karajan only had one voice his influence and authority was so irresistible that nothing could be done without or against him in "Karajanopis."

In the city of Mozart, for example, he encouraged the construction of a huge festival building, in which Wagner, Verdi and Strauss would feel more at home than poor Mozart.

Although he admirably maintained "the standard" he did so at the expense of openness and a willingness to innovate, which could have made the festivals more exciting and up-to-date.

Institutions which enjoy the favourable influence of a genius loci and an incomparable tradition such as the Salzburg festival can by no means be con-

tinued with only more or less interesting

Arrogant young critics, who love to criticise Salzburg as "the beautiful corpse of yesterday", are nevertheless glad to be able to listen to the world's best interpreters of music in the festival theatre.

What Salzburg needs now is ideas.

Just muddling through will not help.

In the arts nothing seems more easily

lost or is more difficult to sustain than

the brilliance of the big festivals.

Joachim Kaiser

(*Süddeutsche Zeitung*, Munich, 29 July 1989)

## ■ HORIZONS

## The wicker beach chair discovers greener fields

**STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG**

The traditional *Strandkorb*, a wicker beach chair with a rounded hood used on the beaches along Germany's Baltic and North Sea coasts, is a timeless symbol of idyllic beach life.

Holidaymakers have enjoyed the refuge of the snug two-seater for more than a century.

Now the beach chair is moving inland. The swing hammock which was so popular during the 1960s on patios and balconies and in winter gardens all over the country is being replaced by the beach chair.

Rudi Schardt and his firm, Friesländer Strandkörbe, on the island of Sylt send 80 per cent of the top-quality wickerwork chairs to mainland Germany and all over the world, to Greece, Iceland, the USA, Britain (including Harrods store in London) and even Japan.

Ninety per cent of the North Frisian luxury models are sold to private owners at prices of between DM1,500 and DM6,000. Less luxurious models come much cheaper — for 400 marks.

For Schardt, who comes from a basket-making family, the "wind-proof" and "weather-proof" beach chair is ideal.

As opposed to the deck chair or lounger, it can be used all year round.

More and more people want one. Gerd Müsing, whose firm, called Schatzruhe, has been selling them for use in the garden for five years, says business is booming.

The beach chair boom has taken off in a really big way throughout Germany this year.

Müsing's firm offers 150 different patterns for the chair's inside lining, but most people still prefer the traditional white stripes with yellow, blue and red.

There is a growing demand for willow wickerwork. Whereas the chairs made of synthetic materials are more popular on the beaches private owners prefer chairs made of wood.

As was to be expected there are plenty of firms on the market offering cut-price chairs.

Many of the big stores have included beach chairs in their range of items in line with the motto: a holiday aura which can be created in everyone's back

Continued from page 10

public's memory. There was also a conflict with Hamburg's mayor Voscherau over the uncovered costs for the appearance of the Kirov theatre in Hamburg.

No-one knows how the problem of a possible festival deficit this summer could be resolved.

Björn Engholm has made it clear that he has no intention of providing more than the DM4m in Land funds already provided.

In public Engholm still stands up for Frantz, but his patience does have limits.

Remarks such as "In the long run a festival is never tied to just one person" speak for themselves. Ocke Peters

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 28 July 1989)

garden. The question is: will the "summer residence" priced at DM400 survive over a longer period?

Schardt and Müsing feel that a good finish is extremely important. All the metal parts and mountings of their products are rust-proof, the wooden parts impregnated, the "modern loungers" adjustable, and the design robust.

A handful of basket-makers, most of them in family businesses, share the market.

It usually takes eight to ten hours to weave a basket.

This craftsmanship has its price. Chairs with special fittings such as more resistant upholstery or adjustable side sections can cost anything up to DM3,000.

This is extremely practical and comfortable "box" for one or two persons is a German invention.

Back in 1882 Elfriede Maltzahn, who suffered from rheumatism, asked the court basket-maker Wilhelm Bartelmann from Rostock to construct a comfortable and wind-sheltered beach chair in his small workshop.

The basket-maker designed a chair which looked more like an erect clothes basket with canvas lining, the very first *Strandkorb*.

Frau Maltzahn was able to enjoy the sea air and the sun on Warnemünde beach sheltered from the wind.

Just one year later basket-maker Bartelmann advertised his beach chairs in the newspapers.

This was the start of their success story on the beaches of the North and Baltic Seas.

The rather unsociable one-seater soon turned into a cosy two-seater. The wooden frame was woven in wicker and lined inside with striped canvas material. The users had to sit upright in the first models.

Johann Falck, from Rostock, invented the "semi-lounger", a chair in which half of the back-rest could be removed. This led on to the beach chair with an adjustable upper section.

Apart from the fact that they afford protection against wind and weather today's beach chairs have very little in common with the models of the early

Continued on page 15

The Gutleutviertel has an atmos-

phere that isn't easy to sacrifice, and she is convinced the Campanile would ruin it.

The developers have offered her more than cash. When she doesn't want to be bought for money, they promised her to do "something good for the area," such as building a community centre to be named after her.

Frau Kraus was still resolutely opposed. "If my name were to stand for having thwarted the tower project, I would be a much greater tribute to my memory," she says.

"Yet she can't readily afford to turn down the cash offer. A few million marks would come in handy to repay debts or refurbish her three houses in the district (they need renovating houses always do).

It was a media event. The police appeared to hapless bystanders. Whatever they did, it seemed to be wrong.

Details of the police rule from Gladbeck to Bremen and to the bloodshed that ended the drama on the autobahn near Bonn, reveal a pattern of mistakes.

They are links in a chain of mishaps and missed opportunities, and no-one would dispute this.

What did happen? The interim report by the parliamentary commission of inquiry set up by the North Rhine-Westphalian state assembly in Düsseldorf sums it up in two brief paragraphs:

"At 7.55 a.m. on 16 August 1989 two masked, armed men, later identified as Hans-Jürgen Rösner and Dieter Degowski, broke into the Gladbeck branch of the Deutsche Bank and took the cashier and a female clerk hostage.

"As the police felt the hostages could not be freed in the bank without jeopardising their lives, the gangsters were allowed to make a getaway at 9.40 p.m. In Gladbeck they picked up their accomplice, Rösner's girlfriend Marion Löblich.

"After driving round North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony and Bremen, they hijacked a bus in Bremen at 7 p.m. the following day, taking the passengers hostage.

"The bus was then used as a getaway vehicle. At the Grundbergsee autobahn service station Degowski shot and killed Marion Löblich.

"The world was pretty buttoned up back in those days, holidaymakers sat stiff as a poker in their beach chairs.

"People emerged from the changing cubicles on the beaches almost as fully dressed as when they went in.

"The woman of the world wore breeches stretching down to her calves or ankles, which were bound at the bottom like knickerbockers. In addition, a smock with a belt and a bodice underneath.

"This bathing costume, a veritable monstrosity, was originally made of a black and scratchy semi-woollen fabric.

"The perfect dress included black woollen socks and canvas bathing



No amount of money will make me change my mind, says Hannalore Kraus.  
(Photo: dpa)

## One woman's campaign to halt plans to build skyscraper

Frankfurt house-owner Hannalore Kraus, 49, looks like succeeding in her one-woman campaign to thwart plans to build the tallest skyscraper in Europe near the city's main railway station.

Mannheim property developers were granted preliminary planning permission to build a tower block 260 metres (853ft) tall, the Campanile.

Frau Kraus has already blocked further progress on the project for four and a half months, and her point-blank refusal, as a neighbouring property-owner, to sanction the project could well block it for good.

She has been offered millions by the developers but remains firmly convinced that the block would stick out like a sore thumb and be totally out of place in the city-centre area, the Gutleutviertel, where she lives.

But she is a woman of principle, and one principle she learnt from her parents was: "You don't sell your grandmother and you don't sell your soul."

Having experienced at first hand that "cash is no object" in projects of this kind, she is — if anything — even less keen to name her price.

Basically, she feels, Frankfurt ought never have left it to neighbouring property-owners to decide whether or not the Campanile was to be built as planned.

She has called on the city's new council, a coalition of Social Democrats and Greens, to come out clearly against the plan to build Europe's tallest skyscraper.

The new council is now reviewing the paperwork to see whether its Christian Democratic predecessor made any formal mistakes in granting preliminary planning permission.

Frau Kraus's campaign is extremely popular locally, although a handful of people have accused of standing in the path of progress in the city.

The developers are now trying to keep her from the proceedings by legal means. A helicopter survey shows the distance between her house and the proposed site to be 90 metres.

The developers feel this is most encouraging. According to their interpretation of the regulations, that is too far away for her permission to be required.

She could only refuse if her property were less than 75 metres away, they say.

Klaus Ischarka: (Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz, 26 July 1989)

(Photo: Sven Simon)

Getting away from it all with a *Strandkorb*.  
(Photo: Sven Simon)

## ■ HOLDUP-MURDER TRIAL

## Hostage deaths blamed on series of police errors

**Süddeutsche Zeitung**

accused of jointly committing two murders (de Georgi and Bischoff), and Löblich of being an accessory to the murder of Silke Bischoff.

The prosecution's indictment is an 81-page document. Two hundred witnesses and 14 experts are to be heard.

The trio are also accused of hijacking, of taking hostages with fatal consequences and of blackmail while committing a robbery.

Last but not least, they are accused of attempted murder in several cases, having fired at police officers and others on several occasions during the chase.

But what conclusions have politicians and the police reached from the Gladbeck hijack case, and what conclusions ought they to reach?

The case is still under investigation by parliamentary commissions in North Rhine-Westphalia and Bremen.

In Bremen, Home Affairs Senator Bernd Meyer, SPD, resigned in view of the serious mistakes the police had made in the case. In North Rhine-Westphalia Interior Minister Herbert Schnoor, SPD, has withheld persistent pressure to resign.

He was called on to resign by the Düsseldorf Opposition days after the shoot-out, and the main argument continues to be that the Interior Ministry was at least indirectly responsible for the mistakes made by the police.

The two armed gangsters, determined to stop at nothing, were screened live on TV with pistols pointed at their hostages' heads or being interviewed in their getaway car, surrounded by pressmen and passers-by in a crowded Cologne pedestrian precinct.

He was called on to resign by the Düsseldorf Opposition days after the shoot-out, and the main argument continues to be that the Interior Ministry was at least indirectly responsible for the mistakes made by the police.

Ministry officials are said to have misread the situation for two days and to have played a responsible part in the course of action the police took. So Schnoor must go.

The Opposition Christian and Free Democrats in North Rhine-Westphalia have since sought incessantly and by all means to lend substance to suspicions that the Minister issued instructions that influenced police tactics.

They are links in a chain of mishaps and missed opportunities, and no-one would dispute this.

What did happen? The interim report by the parliamentary commission of inquiry set up by the North Rhine-Westphalian state assembly in Düsseldorf sums it up in two brief paragraphs:

"At 7.55 a.m. on 16 August 1989 two masked, armed men, later identified as Hans-Jürgen Rösner and Dieter Degowski, broke into the Gladbeck branch of the Deutsche Bank and took the cashier and a female clerk hostage.

"The line of defence is clear. Dr Schnoor is said at no point to have interfered with police tactics. There was an political concept behind police decisions. The only instructions he gave were to call in the crack anti-terrorist unit, the GSG 9.

Dr Schnoor told the commission of inquiry that he saw no reason — and still sees none — to resign solely on account of failure in fighting serious crime.

He says he still feels the fundamental decisions taken were right.

What, fundamentally, ought the police otherwise to have done? They certainly missed several opportunities of freeing the hostage at no risk to the hostages' lives.

They did so partly because the gangsters were misread and partly because the flying squads were not at the ready when the opportunity arose.

The gangsters took a break at the



Daféndant Degowski and hostage Bischoff. Shortly afterwards, the girl was shot dead.  
(Photo: dpa)

Grönegau autobahn service station, going to the toilet. The police were a mile and a half away.

A similar opportunity was missed in Hagen, while in Bremen Rösner and Löblich went shopping, leaving Degowski to look after the first two hostages.

Degowski slipped out to answer a call of nature. He briefly left the two hostages on their own in the getaway car.

This list of missed opportunities could be continued. There was, for that matter, the ill-advised arrest of Marion Löblich in an autobahn service station toilet. (Directly afterwards, Emanuele de Georgi was killed).

Police equipment and arms seem to have been either faulty or unsuitable at various times.

Above all, and incomprehensibly, the vehicles that accompanied the hijacked bus and the final getaway car did not include an ambulance.

These details and countless other failures and mishaps led to the final fiasco. Yet the fundamental dilemma remains.

Ought the police, come what may, to end a hostage-taking at the scene of the first crime, risking the death of the hostages to prevent further risks to life and limb?

Hostages are members of the public and no less entitled to police protection than anyone else.

And how is one to reconcile the contradictions inherent in providing hijackers with a getaway vehicle yet trailing them in order to make use of any opportunity to free the hostages and take the hijackers into custody?

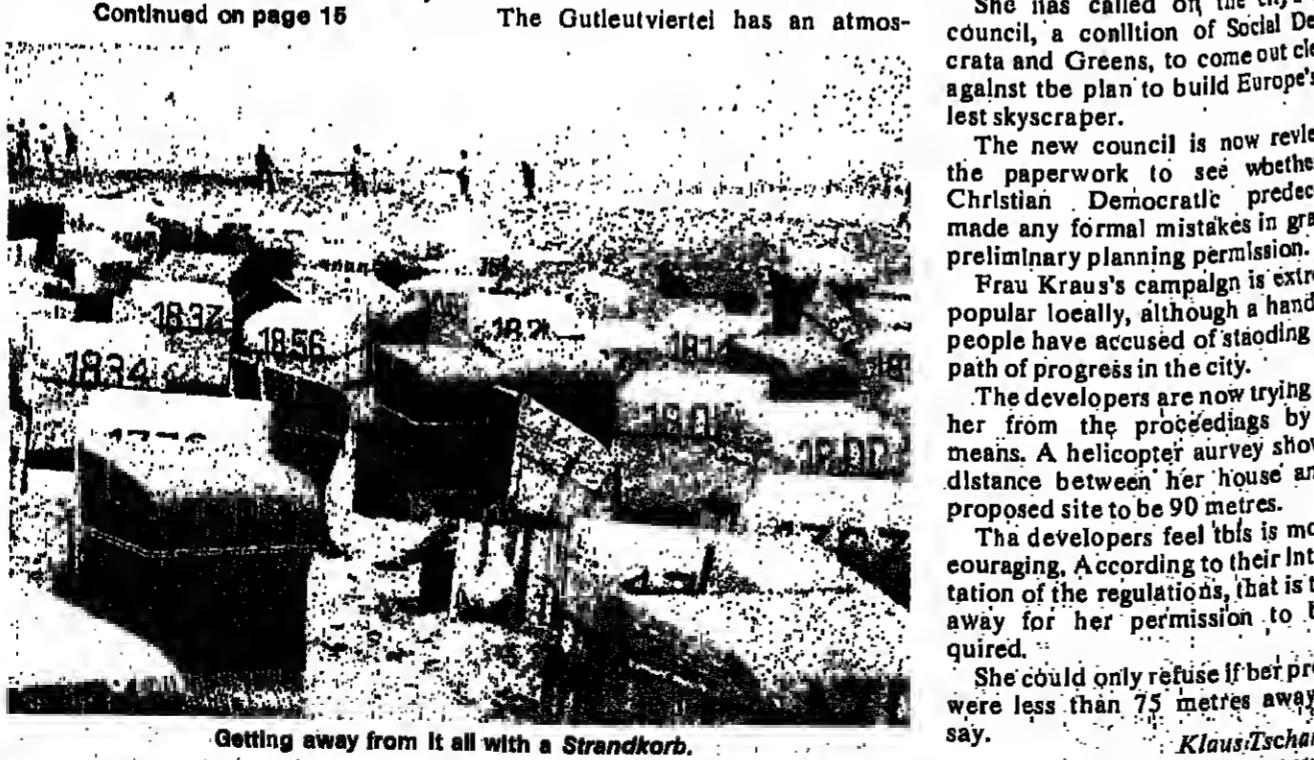
The *Land* Interior Ministers met in Cologne in April and failed, in their review of the Gladbeck hijacking, to reach a new and convincing conclusion.

Improvements in equipment, organisation and coordination are clearly needed, but they alone will not solve the problem. No-one — not even Bavaria — has yet come up with instructions suitable for use in every case.

A year ago the Bavarians, jubilant at the discomfiture of others, staged an exercise to show the media how they would handle a hijacking.

But it was only make-believe, with police officers posing as gangsters.

"Next time," Dr Schnoor surmises, "there will probably be a shoot-out sooner." Michael Birnbaum  
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 29 July 1989)



Getting away from it all with a *Strandkorb*.  
(Photo: Sven Simon)

(Photo: Sven Simon)